

## Message Text

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PAGE 01     ADDIS 10252 142048Z

67

ACTION IO-03

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-03 INR-05 PRS-01 SP-02 AF-04 /038 W

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R 141021Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 923

C O N F I D E N T I A L ADDIS ABABA 10252

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR UNGA ET

SUBJ:VVV SECVISIT: 31 UNGA

REF: A) STATE 180074, B) ADDIS ABABA 9027, C) STATE 225436

1. EPMG FONMIN KIFLE WODAJO CONFIRMED TO ME SEPT 12 HIS INTENTION TO ATTEND 31ST REGULAR SESSION OF UNGA. HE BELIEVES HE WILL LEAVE FOR NEW YORK SOMETIME THIS WEEKEND, SEPT 18 OR 19. HE HAS NOT YET ASKED FOR A MEETING WITH THE SECRETARY, BUT WE WOULD NOT RULE OUT POSSIBILITY THAT HE MIGHT DO SO THROUGH ETHIOPIAN EMBASSY OR MISSION IN NEW YORK. THERE MAY BE LESS OF A REASON FOR HIM TO DO SO NOW THAN THERE WAS TWO WEEKS AGO, HOWEVER. IF HIS GOVERNMENT IS NO LONGER PREPARED TO ARTUE FOR LOWER INTEREST RATE IN CONNECTION WITH OUR OFFER OF DOLS 10 MILLION IN DIRECT FMS CREDITS FOR FY 76 TRANSITIONAL QUARTER (ADDIS 10185), HE MAY NOT FEEL HE HAS ANYTHING SPECIFIC HE WISHES TO RAISE WITH THE SECRETARY.

2. QUESTION THEN ARISES WHETHER WE SHOULD TAKE SOME INITIATIVE WITH HIM I HE DOES NOT ASK FOR AN APPOINTMENT IN INTERESTS OF Eliciting FROM HIM HIS VIEWS ON CURRENT TRENDS IN ETHIOPIA AND HOW THEY MAY AFFECT BILATERAL RELATIONS, TAKING OPPORTUNITY TO REITERATE POINTS MADE BY ASST SECY SCHAUFELE IN HIS PREPARED STATEMENT BEFORE SENATE SUB-VGMMITTEE IN AUGUST. ON BALANCE, WE THINK  
CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 02     ADDIS 10252 142048Z

THIS WOULD BE USEFUL EXCHANGE AND THEREFORE COMMEND IT

FOR DEPT'S CONSIDERATION. NEITHER KIFLE NOR ANYOTHER SENIOR EPMG OFFICIAL HAS HAD OPPORTUNITY TO MEET WITH SENIOR USG OFFICIALS EXCEPT AMBASSADOR SINCE LAST UNGA, AND WE THINK IT DESIRABLE THAT SUCH HIGH-LEVEL CONTACTS BE RENEWED. WE WOULD SEE NO GREAT PROBLEM IF INITIATIVE WERE TO COME FROM SCHAUFLE RATHER THAN FROM SECRETARY SO LONG AS KIFLE DOES NOT HIMSELF ASK FOR AN APPOINTMENT WITH SECRETARY. IF SECRETARY HOSTS DINNER FOR AFRICAN FONMINS, HOWEVER, WE WOULD HOPE KIFLE IS INCLUDED IF HE IS IN NEW YORK AT TIME.

3. IF SUCH A MEETING WERE TO TAKE PLACE, WE SUGGEST THAT IN ADDITION TO REVIEWING US POLICY TOWARD ETHIOPIA AS EXPRESSED IN SCHAUFLE STATEMENT, WE SPECIFICALLY RAISE ISSUE OF COMPENSATION FOR NATIONALIZED FIRMS WHICH IS STILL DWGGING, AND THE CONTINUING ANTI-US TONE AND SOMETIMES CONTENT OF THE MEDIA DESPITE THE EXPRESSED EPMG POLICY OF FRIENDSHIP WITH THE US (ADDIS ABABA 6989). WE ALSO SUGGEST ATTEMPTING TO ELICIT HIS VIEWS ON FUTURE OF US MILITARY/ ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE, E.G., WE HAVE MADE CONSIDERABLE EFFORT TO BE RESPONSIVE TO REPEATED EPMG REQUESTS FOR FMS CREDITS ONLY TO HAVE OFFERS TURNED DOWN WHEN THEY WERE MADE. ON ECONOMIC SIDE, WE NOTE THAT EPMG APPEARS TO BE ACDEPTING ASSISTANCE RIGHT ALONG FROM NUMBER OF COUNTRIES(MOSTLY EASTERN), BUT WE HAVE NOT HAD ANY RECENT IDICATIONS FROM EPMG HOW WE MIGHT CONTINUE TO BE HELPFUL. WOULD KIFLE CARE TO COMMENT?

4. WE DO NOT RECOMMEND THAT WE RAISE STATUS OF KAGNEW, AND DOUBT THAT KIFLE WOULD RAISE IT WITH US, UNLESS EPMG BELIEVES IT CAN DO SO MORE EASILY NOW FOLLOWING ITS TURNEDOWN OF THE TWO OF THE TWO OFFERS OF FMS CREDIT. WE HAVE, HOWEVER, NO INDICATION OF ANY SUCH DEVELOPMENT. IF KIFLE SHOULD RAISE IT, DEPT'S REPLY CAN BEST BE CONSTRUCTED IN WASHINGTON. IF KIFLE DOES NOT RAISE MILITARY ASSISTANCE QUESTION OR KAGNEW , WE CAN THINK OF NO OTHER SPECIFIC PROBLEM HE MIGHT RAISE.  
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## Message Attributes

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